

Appl. No. 10/010,391
Atty. Docket No. 8384R
Amdt. dated June 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An article packaging device comprising:
an inlet end,
an outlet end,
a body formed by an inner core having an inlet opening and an outlet opening, and a passageway therebetween,
a casing comprising a casing wall around the body, the casing joined to the body with a storage space between them, and
a tubular sheet within the storage space, the tubular sheet dispensable through a dispensing opening between the body and the casing and into the inlet opening of the inner core and wherein said tubular sheet comprises an adhesive on at least a portion of said tubular sheet,
wherein the casing or the storage space comprises a slot,
wherein said slot is adapted for compressively gathering and separating a packaged article from a trailing portion of the said tubular sheet as the sheet is inserted and moved through the said slot, whereby the compressive gathering of said tubular sheet causes said adhesive to bond said tubular sheet to itself along its gathered portions in order to close and seal a first packaged article and form a new gathered leading edge of a second packaged article.
2. (Currently Amended) The article packaging device according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~separating means~~ slot comprises a cutting means for cutting through the trailing portion of the tubular sheet to form a packaged article.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The article packaging device according to Claim 1, wherein the tubular sheet includes a leading portion, a trailing portion and an inner surface, the inner surface

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comprising an adhesive material, whereby the leading portion and the trailing portion are closeable about at least one article located therebetween with the adhesive material, thereby forming a packaged article.

6. (Original) The article packaging device according to Claim 1, wherein the tubular sheet comprises a three-dimensional film having an inner surface that comprises a plurality of recessed pressure sensitive adhesive sites and a plurality of collapsible protrusions that serve as stand-offs to prevent premature sticking of the adhesive sites to a target surface until a force sufficient to collapse the protrusions has been applied to the opposed surface of the film.

7. (Original) The article package device according to Claim 6, wherein the article to be packaged is a waste-filled disposable absorbent article.

8. (Original) The article packaging device according to Claim 1, wherein the inlet opening is circular or oval.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) An article packaging device comprising:
an inlet end,
an outlet end,
a body formed by an inner core having an inlet opening and an outlet opening, and a passageway therebetween,
a casing comprising a casing wall around the body, the casing joined to the body with a storage space between them, and
a tubular sheet with two surfaces within the storage space, comprising an adhesive disposed on at least one of said surfaces, the tubular sheet dispensable through a dispensing opening between the body and the casing and into the inlet opening of the inner core,
wherein the casing or the storage space comprises a slot,
wherein said slot is adapted for compressively gathering and separating a packaged article from a trailing portion of the said tubular sheet as the tubular sheet is inserted and moved through the slot, whereby the compressive gathering of said tubular sheet causes said adhesive to bond said tubular sheet to itself along

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its gathered portions in order to close and seal a packaged article and form a new gathered leading edge.

wherein said slot is further adapted for separating the packaged article from a trailing portion of said tubular sheet as the tubular sheet is inserted and moved through said slot, whereby the separating of the packaged article is performed after each compressive gathering of said tubular sheet such that a series of packaged articles may be formed and disposed of in a successive and independent manner.

12. (Cancelled)
13. (Previously Presented) The article packaging device of claim 11, wherein the tubular sheet is in a layered stack.
14. (Previously Presented) The article packaging device according to Claim 11, wherein the tubular sheet comprises a three-dimensional film having an inner surface that comprises a plurality of recessed pressure sensitive adhesive sites and a plurality of collapsible protrusions that serve as stand-offs to prevent premature sticking of the adhesive sites to a target surface until a force sufficient to collapse the protrusions has been applied to the opposed surface of the film.
15. (Currently Amended) An article packaging device comprising:
 - an inlet end,
 - an outlet end,
 - a body formed by an inner core having an inlet opening and an outlet opening, and a passageway therebetween,
 - a casing comprising a casing wall around the body, the casing joined to the body with a storage space between them, and
 - a tubular sheet with two surfaces within the storage space, comprising an adhesive disposed on at least one of said surfaces, the tubular sheet dispensable through a dispensing opening between the body and the casing and into the inlet opening of the inner core,
 - wherein the casing or the storage space comprises a slot,
 - wherein said slot is adapted for compressively gathering and separating a packaged article from a trailing portion of the said tubular sheet as the tubular sheet is inserted and moved through the slot, whereby the compressive gathering

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of said tubular sheet causes said adhesive to bond said tubular sheet to itself along its gathered portions in order to close and seal a packaged article and form a new gathered leading edge, and wherein the device has a compact dimension of a height along a vertical axis less than 20 centimeters and a width along a horizontal axis of less than 17 centimeters.

16. (Previously Presented) The article packaging device of claim 15, wherein the tubular sheet is in a layered stack.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Original) The article packaging device according to Claim 15, wherein the tubular sheet comprises a three-dimensional film having an inner surface that comprises a plurality of recessed pressure sensitive adhesive sites and a plurality of collapsible protrusions that serve as stand-offs to prevent premature sticking of the adhesive sites to a target surface until a force sufficient to collapse the protrusions has been applied to the opposed surface of the film.
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Cancelled)